

## Message Text

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16

ACTION ACDA-19

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 AEC-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 IO-14

L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-04 OMB-01 PA-04 PM-07 PRS-01 SAJ-01

SAM-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 TRSE-00 RSC-01 NSC-07

DRC-01 /152 W

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R 032350Z JUL 74

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6611

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY BONN

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 3734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR: WG AERIAL INSPECTION PAPER

REF: STATE 137120

1. BECAUSE DATA QUESTIONS AGAIN DOMINATED JULY 2 WG MEETING, ONLY SHORT TIME REMAINED TO CONSIDER AERIAL INSPECTION PAPER. CHAIRMAN (SMITH) SAID THAT SOME ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN SINCE SUBJECT HAD NOT BEEN DISCUSSED FOR PAST SEVERAL WEEKS, WHILE AT SAME TIME SEVERAL ALLIES CONTINUED TO SUBMIT COMMENTS. U.S. REP SAID HE HAD SUBSTANTIAL COMMENTS TO MAKE BOTH ON TEXT AS WELL AS EARLIER UK AND FRG COMMENTS. UK REP SAID LONDON ALSO HAD FURTHER COMMENTS (NOT RECEIVED BY ALLIES IN TIME FOR MEETING).

2. IN THIS SITUATION, CHAIRMAN SAID DISCUSSION WOULD NOT SEEM PRODUCTIVE AND SUGGESTED THAT STAFF GROUP PUT TOGETHER NEW TEXT INCORPORATING ALL CONTRIBUTIONS, BRACKETING MAJOR ALTERNATIVE  
SECRET

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POSITIONS WHERE NECESSARY. HE ASKED U.S. REP TO CIRCULATE HIS COMMENTS, WHICH LATTER AGREED TO DO.

3. UK REP (GEHRATY) MADE ONLY SUBSTANTIVE INTERVENTION. HE SAID

THAT WG DID NOT APPEAR TO HAVE DEVELOPED A FIRM FIX ON THE BASIC PURPOSE OF AERIAL INSPECTION. AS UK SAW IT, BASIC QUESTION WAS WHETHER AERIAL INSPECTION IS AN INTELLIGENCE GATHERER OR A POSSIBLE COMPONENT OF AN OVERT VERIFICATION SYSTEM. MODALITIES OF ITS USE, AND HENCE TECHNICAL QUESTIONS TO BE EXAMINED, DIFFER SUBSTANTIALLY DEPENDING HOW THIS QUESTION IS ANSWERED. SINCE UK DOES NOT SEE AERIAL INSPECTION AS A BASIC SOURCE OF INTELLIGENCE, MANY OF THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION ARE NOT GERMANE, AND IN ANY CASE ARE FOR THE MOST PART BEYOND WG'S PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE TO DISCUSS.

4. IN SUBSEQUENT PRIVATE CONVERSATION WITH U.S. REP, UK REP ADDED THAT IN HIS VIEW, APPROACH TO AERIAL INSPECTION AT TECHNICAL LEVEL WAS CONTINUALLY COMPLICATED BY (LARGELY NATO MILITARY) VIEW THAT OVERT VERIFICATION SHOULD ENHANCE WARNING TIME. AS SUCH ITS OPERATING COMPONENTS BECOME INVOLVED IN THE PRODUCTION OF INTELLIGENCE. DISCUSSIONS ON HOW THESE COMPONENTS, BUT ESPECIALLY AERIAL INSPECTION, SHOULD OPERATE THUS BECOME DOMINATED BY SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS GERMANE TO INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION BUT HAVING LITTLE TO DO WITH THE MONITORING FUNCTION OF OVER VERIFICATION.

5. MISSION WILL TRANSMIT TEXT OF NEW PAPER WHEN RECEIVED.  
RUMSFELD

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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**TAGS:** PARM, NATO  
**To:** STATE  
SECDEF INFO LONDON  
BONN  
MBFR VIENNA  
USNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
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